

American Bee Journal

44th Year.

CHICAGO, ILL., OCT. 13, 1904.

No. 41.



O. D. EDWARDS AND A HONEY-HAND.

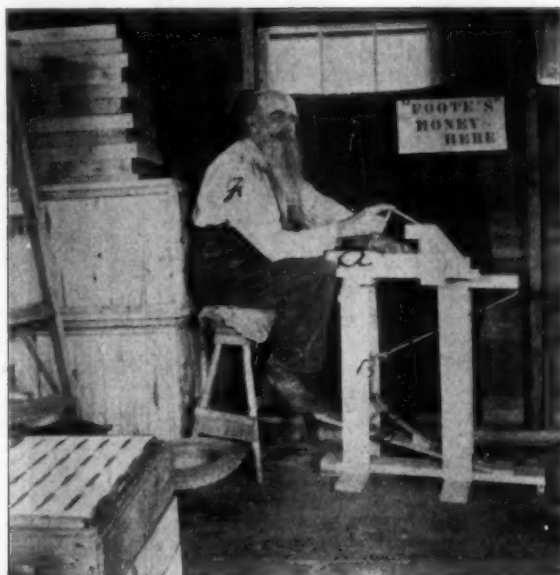
(See pages 692, 693, 694, 696.)



H. C. MOREHOUSE.



WM. R. GOULD AND A SWARM.



A. F. FOOTE AND SECTION-PRESS

OUR new edition of the A B C of Bee Culture is progressing finely. We expect to have the first copies ready in the coming December. Already we have orders booked for a large number. If you want a copy promptly you had better let us have your order now. Old price: \$1.00, postage 20c extra.

THE Root Correspondence School is going to be a success. The readers of The American Bee Journal will remember that we make a special offer to them of the course for \$10.00 to a limited number. Ask for our prospectus and particulars.

THE two little books: "Modern Queen-Rearing" and "How to Produce Extracted Honey" are selling fast. They are great value for little money. Fifteen cents each or both for twenty-five cents, postpaid.

IN October the discount on our bee supplies is 6 per cent. Every month you wait it will be less. It's a saving to anticipate your wants. It pays to be ready.

THE A. I. ROOT COMPANY,

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GEORGE W. YORK, Editor.

CHICAGO, ILL., OCT. 13, 1904.

Vol. XLIV—No. 41.



Editorial Notes and Comments



The St. Louis Convention of the National.

This meeting of bee-keepers will be remembered as one of the most harmonious of all gatherings of the National. It was like the calm after a storm, when the Los Angeles convention of 1903 is recalled.

There were 160 members in attendance, with about 25 States, the District of Columbia, and Russia and Cuba, represented. It was somewhat amusing to hear the remark, "This is the largest and best convention of bee-keepers ever held in this country". We mean it was amusing to those who had not missed a meeting of the National during the past dozen years. The Los Angeles convention numbered about 200; the Chicago meeting, in 1900, about 300. And as to the "best meeting"—several former ones were far ahead of St. Louis, we think. But the last one was a good meeting, and very enjoyable in many ways.

There seemed to be an effort to get in some public nominations for officers and directors, which manifestly would have been unfair, and we think contrary to the new constitution, as revised last year. It provides that the Board of Directors shall arrange the details of nominations and elections, and they decided that nominations should be made by the membership through a postal-card informal ballot, which has been done. Of course, it is an experiment, but we say, let the constitution be followed, and if no officers are to be elected at the annual meetings, as was done previous to 1904, then let no nominations be made there, either. Unless *all* the candidates for a certain office were nominated, or mentioned publicly, at the annual meeting, it would be unfair to those omitted, and would give an advantage to those so nominated. If we were a candidate for any office in the National, we would not want to be mentioned publicly at the annual meeting unless the others who might be candidates for the same office were also so named. We would desire absolute fairness to all.

One of the dangers in these things is the tendency to inject questionable political methods. We believe the office should seek the man, and not the man seek the office. Up to the present time we believe that the National offices have, in almost every instance, been given to persons who did not seek them. It's a good plan. Better officers are secured in that way.

So we say, let the National Association keep as far away as possible from political methods that are the least

questionable or tainted with self-seeking. Unless it does so, there likely will be trouble ahead, and the Association will become worse than useless to the bee-keeping fraternity and industry, in whose behalf it was organized and is kept in existence.

Next week we will continue these convention comments.

A little later we expect to begin the publication of the report of the St. Louis convention in these columns.

Scraping the Refuse from Cakes of Beeswax.

Generally there is more or less refuse that must be scraped from the bottom of a cake of beeswax, and it isn't the easiest thing to do. Here's a bright kink from J. A. Green, in *Gleanings in Bee-Culture*, that knocks off three-fourths of the labor:

"Lay your cake of wax upside down on the grass in the hot sun until the part exposed to the sun is thoroughly softened, while the rest is still hard. You can then scrape it as deeply as you wish, and do it easily. Do not lay it on a board or the bare ground, or it will get hot where you do not want it to."

Candor in Dealing With Customers.

A contributor in the *Bee-Keepers' Review*, who sells honey partly of his own production and partly bought from others, says:

"I create the impression that I produce all honey sold by me, but I do not *say so*. A party will say: 'You must have an awful lot of bees'. I answer: 'When I get done I will have 20,000 pounds of honey sold'. It is not always wise to *tell* even the truth, but I make it a point to tell no *lies*."

When the editor allowed that to go to press without note or comment, he lost a fine opportunity to "point a moral", especially for the younger portion of his readers. The contributor does not say anything that, taken by itself, is not strictly true, yet he frankly says that he creates a false impression; which is only another way of saying that he makes his customers believe that which is false.

Without dwelling upon the moral side of the question, is such a course good business policy? One of the important requisites of a good salesman is the ability to secure the confidence of a customer. In the case in question, is not that confidence in danger of being rudely shaken? For a time all will go well, and a fine list of customers will be

happy in the thought that they are buying honey from a man who produces all he sells. But, by and by, some one who knows differently says to one of these customers, "Oh, no, you are mistaken; that man sells the honey he produces, but he also sells a lot that he buys from others". "Well, now, is that so? Why, he told me that all the honey he sold was of his own production". No use to tell him that no such exact form of words was used; it isn't the exact words that he keeps in memory most strongly, but the impression made by those words. A false impression was made—was intended to be made—and being deceived in one respect it is not hard for him to believe that he is deceived in other respects, so, when he is told, "You can't buy any pure honey nowadays—that very honey that you're buying for pure is pretty sure to be half glucose", he replies, "Very likely, for a man that will deceive in one respect will not scruple to deceive in other respects".

The surest way to gain the confidence of a customer is to be entirely candid and truthful, not only in the words that are spoken, but in the way they are spoken, and especially in leaving correct impressions. Words are used to convey ideas and make impressions, and the truth or falsity lies in the impression more than in the words. Let a customer once find that he has been deceived by you in any one thing, and you have forever lost that confidence which gives you your strongest hold.

A Queen that Won't Lay Drone-Eggs.

Arthur C. Miller reports in the American Bee-Keeper the case of a queen which declines to lay eggs in drone-cells, even though the workers seem to urge her thereto. He says:

As the colony fills three shallow chambers and two supers I looked for signs of swarming, and I also wanted to save the extra queen-cells. There were no external symptoms, and within all was serene. Not a queen-cell or cup to be seen. Each brood-chamber was packed with brood except drone-comb. Such cells the queen had completely avoided, even though in several places she had laid in worker-cells all around the drone-cells. These latter were all varnished and ready for use. Apparently the workers wanted drones, but the queen did not.

The case is interesting. The queen is in her fourth summer at least, and has once been out with a swarm, and yet now when she should be declining, she is keeping the equivalent of 16 Langstroth frames packed with brood and declines to rear drones.

This was June 18, and three weeks later, when the colony swarmed, a careful inspection of the bees as they passed into the hive detected just three drones, which may or may not have come from elsewhere; but not a drone-cell could be found containing brood in any stage, although they were nicely polished, ready for eggs. As the colony of this queen shows exceptional work in the supers, one can hardly quarrel with Mr. Miller for thinking her a good queen, even though of hybrid stock.



Miscellaneous News Items



Mr. N. A. Kluck, of Stephenson Co., Ill., called at this office when on his return trip from the St. Louis convention. Mr. Kluck is president of the Northern Illinois Bee-Keepers' Association, and a good convention-attender.

The Langstroth Article, on page 677 of last week's number, should have been credited to Gleanings in Bee-Culture, as it was copied from that excellent magazine. We did not discover the omission of credit until after it was printed. We always intend to be very careful in regard to giving proper credit for anything copied in the American Bee Journal from other papers, but once in awhile we are liable to "slip a cog", just like other common mortals.

Mr. Wm. R. Gould, of Hamilton Co., Ohio, appears on the first page, holding in his right hand a branch on which a swarm of bees settled. For effect, just before the photograph was taken, he caught the two ends of the branch together, thus forming a representation of a horseshoe of live bees. In the back view may be seen a part of his apiary, from which this season he has marketed upwards of 700 pounds of honey from 14 colonies.

Mr. Gould is a recent addition to the list of bee-keepers; also an active member of the Hamilton County Bee-Keepers' Association. The picture was taken by his eldest daughter, Miss Edith.

Mr. Frank B. White, president of White's Class Advertising Company, of Chicago, and a poultryman of note, has recently been appointed a superintendent of one of the sections of the St. Louis Exposition. Mr. Chas. F. Mills, the chief of the Department of Live Stock, in a letter to us, dated Sept. 28, says:

"The Department of Live Stock is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Frank B. White as superintendent

of incubators, brooders, mechanical appliances for this purpose, poultry foods, remedies and supplies. Mr. White's years of experience in such matters, and his services in the organization and promotion of the Incubator Manufacturers' Association of America, qualifies him to serve efficiently and acceptably the exhibitors in these lines."

Knowing Mr. White as well as we do, we congratulate the exhibitors in the lines indicated, upon their good fortune in having so able and popular a superintendent.

Nominations for National Candidates.—In the August bee-papers it was announced that the Board of Directors of the National Bee-Keepers' Association had decided to call for nominations by mail of candidates for the offices to be filled in November, the two highest to be the candidates for each office. General Manager France, in accordance with that arrangement, has sent us for publication the result of the informal ballot, which is as follows:

FOR PRESIDENT—J. U. Harris and C. P. Dadant. Others receiving votes in the order named: Dr. C. C. Miller, George W. York, A. J. Cook, A. I. Root, E. T. Abbott, W. A. Selser, G. M. Doolittle, R. C. Aikin, E. Whitcomb, R. L. Taylor, H. E. Hill, W. Z. Hutchinson.

FOR VICE-PRESIDENT—C. P. Dadant and J. F. McIntyre. Others: Geo. W. Brodbeck, George W. York, Dr. C. C. Miller, G. M. Doolittle, W. L. Coggs, J. Hall, J. U. Harris, Ernest R. Root, Wm. McEvoy, O. L. Hershiser, J. Johnson, H. Moore, W. H. Laws, W. Z. Hutchinson, H. H. Hyde, R. C. Aikin, F. Greiner, F. Fouch, E. T. Abbott, W. A. Selser, Frank Benton.

FOR SECRETARY—W. Z. Hutchinson and Geo. W. Brodbeck. Others: W. H. Laws, S. A. Niver, L. H. Scholl, E. T. Abbott, G. F. Davidson.

FOR GENERAL MANAGER—N. E. France and L. H. Scholl.

FOR DIRECTOR (to succeed E. Whitcomb)—E. Whitcomb and H. H. Hyde. Others: F. W. Muth, H. E. Hill, J. F. McIntyre, Geo. W. Brodbeck, W. Z. Hutchinson, J. A. Green, J. Heddon, A. J. Cook, E. Pratt, W. Alexander, H.

Mendleson, A. Carmichael, Wm. Stolley, E. Gannson, M. Dearby.

FOR DIRECTOR (to succeed W. Z. Hutchinson)—R. L. Taylor and J. Q. Smith. Others: W. Z. Hutchinson, Geo. W. Brodbeck, F. W. Muth, M. A. Gill, W. L. Cogshall, George W. York, Eugene Secor, C. P. Dadant, H. Surface, J. W. Rouse, E. S. Lovesy, Wm. Cary, J. U. Harris, H. Mendleson, C. Stewart, E. Alexander, F. Rauchfuss.

FOR DIRECTOR (to succeed Udo Toepperwein)—Udo Toepperwein and E. S. Lovesy. Others: Dr. C. C. Miller, H. H. Hyde, J. Q. Smith, E. T. Abbott, F. L. Allen, L. H. Scholl, Ernest R. Root, F. Brown, W. H. Laws, W. Victor, H. S. Ferry, Frank Benton, E. J. Atchley, Gus. Dittmer, H. Lathrop, Emma Wilson, C. Stewart, L. Stachelhausen, E. F. Atwater.

While the two persons receiving the highest number of votes on this informal ballot are to be the candidates, that does not prevent members from voting for any of the others named, or any one else not named, who is a member.

In the case of a successor to W. Z. Hutchinson as director, we understand that he has requested that members vote for R. L. Taylor, who also is from Michigan. Mr. Taylor is an able man in every way, and also a practical bee-keeper, and would be a real addition to the Board of Directors, we think.

These Missing Volumes and Copies of the American Bee Journal are wanted by the Periodical Division of The Library of Congress, Washington, D. C., in order to complete their files:

Volumes 2 to 5; Vol. 6, No. 1, July, 1870; Vol. 7, Nos. 2 to 11, August, 1871, to May, 1872; Vols. 8 to 13; Vol. 14, to 12, Feb. to Dec., 1878; Vol. 15; Vol. 16, Nos. 1 to 6, 8 to 12, 1880; Vol. 17; Vol. 18, all except No. 46, Nov. 15, 1882; Vols. 18 to 37; Vol. 38, Nos. 1 to 39, January to September, 1898.

If there are any of our readers who have any or all of the foregoing, we trust they will communicate at once with

Mr. Herbert Putnam, Librarian, Washington, D. C., as he is very desirous of getting all the missing volumes and copies indicated by the list mentioned above, so that there may be deposited in the National Library a complete set of the volumes of the old American Bee Journal.

Mr. O. D. Edwards, of Cooper Co., Mo., and a sample of the peculiar work done by his bees, are shown on the first page this week. When sending the photograph, Mr. Edwards wrote as follows:

I have 26 colonies of bees, and they have been doing very well this year. I had the first swarm June 1, and from this swarm on July 18 I took 24 pounds of fine honey. In taking off honey from one of the old colonies, I found I had some educated bees that manufactured a perfect mitten as well as any artist could do. I enclose a picture showing what it is possible for bees to do. I'll bet it is the only hand that was ever manufactured by bees.

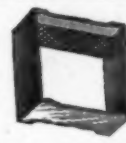
O. D. EDWARDS.

Mr. O. O. Poppleton, of Dade Co., Fla., called at our office both coming and going to the St. Louis convention. He has also been visiting a few weeks in Iowa. Mr. Poppleton is looking and feeling better now than in years past. He is one of America's best bee-keepers, but on account of poor health hitherto he has not been able to write much for the bee-papers. We hope he will continue to improve, and that with voice and pen he may help for many years to place apiculture on a more sure and enduring foundation.

Mr. F. W. Hall, of Sioux Co., Iowa, with two of his daughters, and also a neighbor's daughter, made us a short office call last week when on their way home from the St. Louis convention. It's a good thing to take the older children along on such a trip when it can be done. Mr. Hall has set a good example.



Contributed Special Articles



Freaks in Nectar-Secretion—Alfalfa and Cleome.

BY PROF. A. J. COOK.

I HAVE a letter from the veteran bee-keeper of Ventura Co., Calif.—our friend Mr. Cory—which leads me to write something further about growing alfalfa as a honey-plant. Mr. Cory is a man of wide experience, and a very intelligent observer, and his judgment regarding any matters relating to bees, or their economy, will never be disregarded by one who knows him well.

It will be remembered that I spoke of alfalfa very highly as a honey-plant, and called attention to the possibility of added success if bee-keepers would study the matter of location, and by moving their bees secure the nectar from alfalfa, and thus replace a honey dearth with fair if not a bounteous yield.

Mr. Cory criticises this position—in a kindly way, of course, as Mr. Cory is always a gentleman. He says that while alfalfa in certain regions secretes nectar and adds largely to the honey-yield, in other sections, especially near the coast in Ventura County, it seems of no value at all as a honey-plant. This is certainly a very important matter. Since coming to California I have never lived near enough to alfalfa fields—though there is an extensive area of this valued forage-plant within a few miles of Claremont—to form an opinion as to its value from my own personal observation. It is a fact that nearly all our honey-plants seem very erratic in this matter of nectar-secretion. Thus, in our region of Southern California, a little more or less rain makes the whole difference between a wondrous suc-

cess and an absolute failure in the securing of a honey crop from the sages.

In the East, we use to notice that a season of drouth would utterly cut off the profits of the apiary. It may be true, and very likely is, that atmospheric conditions, as well as soil moisture and make-up, also affect secretion. It seems to me that we need extended observations regarding this whole matter of nectar-secretion. What effect has moisture on the atmosphere or dryness? What is the limit of soil moisture? What is the effect of winds, if any? In fact, the entire relation of environment, both above and below ground, in relation to presence of nectar in the bloom.

It is well known that Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Arizona, and the great San Joaquin Valley in California, are regions of great heat, and also that all of them have a very dry atmosphere. In all of these places, if I am rightly informed, alfalfa, when well irrigated, proves an excellent honey-plant. It would seem, then, that a dry atmosphere and warmth are both favorable to honey-secretion. In some parts of Southern California, like Orange County, Los Angeles County, Ventura and Santa Barbara, the weather is much cooler, and the atmosphere much more moist. Now, if, as Mr. Cory says, the alfalfa does not secrete in these regions, though the soil may be as moist and the growth as luxuriant, then we must conclude that either the warmth or the dryness of the atmosphere is the real cause of the presence of the nectar in the blossom.

I think we may safely conclude that the new and famous regions which are becoming deservedly so noted and popular, of Imperial and Coachella, in San Diego and Riverside Counties of California, may safely be counted on as prospectively excellent for honey. They are very like the

famous Salt River region of Arizona. The heat is very great, and the dryness of the atmosphere is probably equal to that of any section of our country. Both of these regions, especially Imperial, are certain to become very noted for their growth and extent of alfalfa fields.

If the alfalfa plants of the coast region, with its very cool nights and refreshing fogs, do fail in the secretion of nectar, I doubt if any study or possible change of method would make this plant valuable for bee-pasturage. Surely, the whole matter needs most thorough study and investigation.

CLEOME INTEGRIFOLIA.

I have been interested in reading of this bee-plant in the late bee-papers. It will also be remembered by our older apiarists that, in the 80's, I was very interested in the matter of bee-forage, and was quite sanguine about planting for bees with great profit. At my suggestion, the United States Government arranged for extensive experimentation in the matter. I was appointed to conduct this experiment. After as careful study as I could give, I decided upon extensive planting of this Rocky Mountain bee-plant as likely to give good results as any that I might plant. I also planted several others, especially the famous Chapman's honey-plant. I kept these experiments going for several years. Several acres were used. The experiment was attended with no success whatever, except to prove that planting for honey alone would probably never be successful.

We all know that even the best honey-plants are likely to fail. I knew such failure in Michigan for three successive years. California has given only three good years—at least first-class years—in the last eleven. With these facts in view, we readily see that cultivated plants must have other value to warrant their planting. Thus, while I would discourage any one from planting, especially for honey, I would urge all bee-keepers to work for the planting of ornamental and field and garden crops of such plants as are known as good honey-producers.

The roadside planting of the linden in the East, and of eucalypts in the West, and of the tulip-tree wherever it will thrive, is always to be stoutly recommended. The growth of alfalfa, where it secretes nectar, is so desirable that the bee-keeper would be more than warranted in furnishing the seed if he could thus induce farmers to plant this more extensively in the neighborhood of his apiary.

I have no doubt but that such excellent honey-plants as mignonette in the cities of Chicago and Cincinnati, is what has made apiaries in those cities so profitable.

Los Angeles Co., Calif.

Foote's Machine for Folding Sections.

BY A. F. FOOTE.

THIS is the machine that Foote built. (See first page.)

A—This is the plunger that fastens the sections in the machine that Foote built.

B—This is the lever that forces the plunger that fastens the sections in the machine that Foote built.

C—This is the bow that presses the lever that forces the plunger that fastens the sections in the machine that Foote built.

D—This is the pedal that is fast to the bow that presses the lever that forces the plunger that fastens the sections in the machine that Foote built.

E—This is the (coiled) spring that lifts the pedal that is fast to the bow that presses the lever that forces the plunger that fastens the sections in the machine that Foote built.

At the request of the Editor, made some time since, I send a picture and description of my machine for folding honey-sections. It can hardly be called a "section-folder" because the folding is done with the hands, and the machine fastens the ends.

I place the machine beside my work-bench at my left, and while the left hand is putting a finished section away the right hand picks up another from the brackets on the right-hand side of the machine.

It requires a good deal of practice and quick motions to put up 10 in a minute, but I have done 10 in 59 seconds. The "plunger" plays in grooves on top of the machine next to the operator; the "lever" is between the legs on the front, and does not show well in the picture. The other parts show plainly, and all is explained in the parody on "The House That Jack Built".

The sign hanging by the window is like those I made to be kept in the stores where my honey is sold.

Of course, the merits of the machine can be judged only by seeing it work. In the picture it is like "a painted ship upon a painted ocean", but its work has been pronounced perfect by a good many bee-keepers and others. The machine is perhaps ungainly compared with those advertised in the bee-catalogs, but I made it only for my own use, as I have many other very handy tools that I use about my small apiary.

As shown in the picture, my heel rests on a piece nailed at the proper height to the legs of a stool, and a simple pressure of the toe on the pedal does the rest.

Mitchell Co., Iowa.



A Successful Wintering Repository Above Ground.

BY H. R. BOARDMAN.

REFERRING to my bee-house [see p. 696.—Ed.], it was built 25 years ago; and I have used it for wintering my bees, with entire satisfaction, during all of these years since. It was built in a permanent manner, has been kept well painted, and is in a good state of preservation now.

DETAILS OF CONSTRUCTION.

It is entirely above ground; is 50x12x7 feet high, inside, with double walls 12 inches thick, filled with sawdust, and sawdust on the floor overhead. It is divided into three rooms, two of which were designed to be used in winter for winter repositories for the bees. A room in the middle, between these two, is 10 feet square, inside, leaving the bee-rooms each 19x10 inside. There are two doors in this middle room, front and back. The windows all face the backyard on the east; they tip on pivots in the center, to let out the bees, and fasten at the top with spring stops. They are fitted with shutters inside to make the room dark as well as warm for winter. The floor is cement.

The middle room furnishes an indispensable ante-room to the bee-rooms in going in and out during the winter. It also answers an excellent purpose for a ventilating room through which the bee-rooms may be ventilated without admitting the outside air directly to the bees.

For a considerable time after the bees have been put in winter quarters they are not disturbed by the outside air, nor even by the light, if the weather continues moderate, but after a while it becomes necessary to darken the bee-rooms to keep them quiet; and for the same purpose I carefully exclude the direct drafts of outside air.

The room contains a stove used for various purposes, besides furnishing heat and ventilation to the bees in winter when needed. The advantage of two rooms instead of one is apparent in setting out the bees when they have become restless. A part of them can be kept quiet and under control while the rest are put out.

SPECIAL VENTILATORS UNNECESSARY.

When I had my bee-house built I thought that ventilation was the coming solution of the wintering problem. I had two ventilating tubes or pipes, 14 inches square, one in each bee-room, reaching from near the floor inside into the chamber, which I ventilated by a cupola mounted on the center of the house, where the chimney now appears, and connecting with the chamber. This elaborate system of ventilating was all properly controlled by valves and traps, and designed to carry out the vitiated air somewhat as a chimney carries out smoke, so that the bees would keep in a healthy condition. It did not meet my expectation. The draft was the wrong way, and I abandoned the whole scheme as worse than useless, with no little disappointment.

FRESH OUTSIDE AIR TOWARD SPRING NOT DESIRABLE.

I used to open the outside door to admit the fresh, cool air at night to quiet the bees down when they became restless, but I am sure it is a mistake to ventilate in that way. The bees will surely become quiet after admitting the fresh air, and lowering the temperature, but they will not stay quiet. It only increases the impulse to rear brood, just the difficulty that already exists. I have been able to keep the bees in better condition by excluding the outside air until the bees can be set out. I have never been able to maintain a uniform temperature in the bee-rooms, nor have I found it essential to successful wintering. A high temperature I find much safer than a low one, especially after the brood

rearing begins at the approach of spring. By a high temperature I do not mean warm enough to drive the bees out of the hives, or permit them to scatter over the room to die.

I have often been able to maintain a temperature of 60 degrees for a considerable time without serious consequences, but not much above that. About 45 degrees has been generally accepted as nearly right for the winter repository. This is well enough for the forepart of the winter, but I prefer nearly 50 degrees, or even a little higher, towards the end of the season. In order to secure this high temperature I must depend upon the warmth generated by the bees.

Experience has enabled me to determine about how many bees it will be safe to place in a room, and be able also to control the rising temperature in the spring.

For the last two winters I have put all of the bees in one room, holding the other two in reserve to supply fresh air, and have it under my control.

Last winter I put 110 strong colonies in one room in this way, almost as many as I would have put in both rooms, if both had been used, and with much better success in controlling the conditions to my liking. I was pleased with the results, and it suggests some valuable improvements in the construction of winter repositories.

BENEFIT OF ARTIFICIAL HEAT.

I have had considerable experience with artificial heat for a good many years, and it has usually been attended with good results. I often build a fire in the stove in the ante-room of the bee-house when the tempera-

ture keeps too low. By warming first this room I can so gradually and gently raise the temperature in the bee-rooms that the bees only respond in a low murmur—a sure acknowledgment of their comfort and contentment.

The draft of the stove carries out the vitiated air near the floor, and that without admitting any drafts of fresh air from the outside. Here, then, is the perfect ventilator.

I like to put the bees in before severe cold weather, and in a falling temperature, as they will be more quiet and handle better.

SECURING VENTILATION FOR EACH HIVE.

In the bee-house the hives which are without bottoms are placed six inches apart, and tiered up, each over the open space below. The first row is set on hive-covers arranged in the same way. This gives abundant ventilation, and allows the dead bees to drop out of the hives.

I used to think it necessary, for the welfare of the bees, to set them out for a flight during the winter, but I now prefer to have them remain in until they are set out to stay, which time depends upon the season.

I do think it necessary for the welfare of the bees to set them out of the winter repository for their first flight on a warm, pleasant day. I set each hive on the old stand from which it was taken. My hives are all lettered and numbered to correspond with the stands, which enables me to do this readily. All of the colonies that have been put into winter quarters in normal condition I expect will come out in perfect order, and I am seldom disappointed.—Review.

Huron Co., Ohio.



Mr. Hasty's Afterthoughts



The "Old Reliable" seen through New and Unreliable Glasses. By E. E. HASTY, Sta. B Rural, Toledo, Ohio.

INTRODUCING VIRGIN QUEENS.

How shall we go to work to believe that a virgin three hours old is nearly always and everywhere kindly received (or ignored) as Dr. Miller and others teach us, and yet one such, differing only in that the antennae were cut off, was promptly balled in two successive colonies, as Dr. Phillips says? It looks like an incongruity. Really, perhaps it is not. The virgin thus mutilated looks to human eye as pretty nearly all right; but, *really*, she is in a semi-moribund condition. Quite possible the bees so perceive and are horrified by it. That a capital wound should cause great action of the nerves and corresponding exhalation of odor is perfectly imaginable. And we may also wonder how much the smell of fingers and tools comes in here. Page 611.

LARGE BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATIONS.

C. P. Dadant treats us to a clap of thunder (small one) when he tells us we have the largest membership of any bee-association in the world. I had supposed there were in Europe many larger ones, among them some equal to ours multiplied by a considerable figure. Well, in my boyhood, boys used to say, "Now, you see what thought did". Page 612.—[We also think Mr. Dadant is mistaken in his statement. We believe there is an association in Europe having a membership of some 8000 bee-keepers.—EDITOR.]

PROPER TEMPERATURE FOR BROOD-REARING.

So, according to Mr. Doolittle (which is a pretty reliable "according to"), bees do not let the heat go below 92 degrees inside the cluster where they are rearing young. Also, in very warm weather, they do not let it go above 98 degrees. How shall we memorize that? 92! 98! In this case I guess square effort to fix 92 and 98 in the memory will prosper better than any mnemonic trick we are likely to discover. Page 613.

HONEY-COOKIES FOR ALL.

Miss Wilson's cooky figures are very inspiring, indeed. After being so very generous as to allow ten persons to the average family, she points out a market for 96,000,000 pounds of honey each year, by merely supplying everybody (very moderately) with honey-cookies. Two thousand carloads! Quite ready for this advance are full half of our

population, to-wit, the boys and girls. I'm sure the men-folks can't hold out long if you'll only contrive to make them smell a panful of the cookies when they are warm. Nothing appears to be obdurate unless the sisters—*Wonder if the eating of honey-cookies is not good for the complexion.* Now! All together! Great is the honey-cooky! Banzai! Page 615.

FREEDOM FROM BRACE COMBS AND BURR-COMBS.

T. F. Bingham's idea of having all the honey stored inside the frames, and inside the sections, is self-evident good sense. If he has succeeded in living up to his ideal freedom from brace-combs and burr-combs for five years, quite likely some of the brethren may wish to refresh their memories as to how it was done. Oft happens that just when we have got ready to follow suit we've forgotten how. Page 619.

THE RIGHT KIND OF A "WINTER".

I. V. Winter is not "the winter of our discontent", 'cause he finds the bees and the American Bee Journal both interesting, even in times of no honey. Page 621.

LONGEST CELLAR CONFINEMENT OF BEES.

Only four months of the year in which they were wholly out of the cellar! That same is the case of that cap-sheaf, long-confined colony of bees which was overlooked and left in the cellar till June 19. Here's 208 days instead of the 100 originally challenged for. Take your ticket, Mr. Lincoln—till somebody else forgets one till June 20. Page 620.

"The Hum of the Bees in the Apple-Tree Bloom" is the name of the finest bee-keeper's song—words by Hon. Eugene Secor and music by Dr. C. C. Miller. This is thought by some to be the best bee-song yet written by Mr. Secor and Dr. Miller. It is, indeed, a "hummer." We can furnish a single copy of it postpaid, for 10 cents, or 3 copies for 25 cents. Or, we will mail a half-dozen copies of it for sending us *one new* yearly subscription to the American Bee Journal at \$1.00.



Sketches of Beedomites



HARRY CLINTON MOREHOUSE.

Some weeks ago we announced the rather sudden death of H. C. Morehouse, of Colorado, the very efficient secretary of the Colorado Bee-Keepers' Association. We also promised to give later a biographical sketch, which we will do now, taking it from Gleanings in Bee-Culture, which contemporary also has kindly loaned us the engraving appearing on the first page :

On Sunday morning, July 24, at 3 : 30, occurred the death of Mr. Harry Clinton Morehouse, at his home in Boulder, Colo., after an illness of but eight days, from appendicitis. At no period during his brief illness was it suspected by those in attendance that the cause was other than stomach trouble, which, seemingly, yielded to the treatment administered. On Thursday a period of convalescence came on which continued for two days, when, suddenly, a change came, and the victim rapidly sank to his last sleep. An autopsy, held under proper authority, disclosed the exact cause to be a cancerous formation growing about the lower abdomen, and immediate cause appendicitis.

Mr. Morehouse was born in Marengo, Morrow Co., Ohio, April 15, 1869. In 1893 he, with his father, Thomas H., and mother, Mary V. Morehouse, together with a grandfather and brother, removed from Ohio to Guthrie, Okla. There the young man apprenticed in the printing trade, and later became a junior partner of the writer. In 1897 he accompanied the writer to Boulder to establish here the Colorado Representative. This being successfully accomplished, and having early acquired marked skill in the handling of bees, he sold to its founder his interest in the printing-plant, and invested the same with other capital in an apiary in 1900. About this time he was married to Miss Mary Niles, of Boulder. In 1901 he established the Rocky Mountain Bee Journal, and conducted the same with great

success and recognized ability by reason of his keen scientific insight into the subjects treated. Rapidly did his business increase till this time, when he had under his control by far the largest number of colonies of bees of probably any one in the State.

In March last he sold his journal to a California party, and has since confined his efforts to his apiary and to the duties devolving upon him as secretary of the Colorado State Bee-Keepers' Association.

Since coming to Boulder an accident caused the death of his younger brother. Two years ago his father died ; a few weeks later an aunt was taken while a near neighbor, and now he has answered the sudden call, leaving an aged mother alone in the world, save a bereaved young wife with a little son 16 months old.

Mr. Morehouse acquired more than ordinary success in his chosen vocation. He was a man of marked characteristics, and one whose manner at once impressed all with his earnestness, candor, skill, and honesty. He stood high in the business and fraternal circles of Boulder ; and in the State Association none were more strongly recognized in their profession.

The funeral was held on Tuesday, July 26. Quite a large delegation of members of the State Association from over the county were in attendance, and the floral tributes were indeed lavish and most beautiful, signifying in a measure the high regard in which the stricken brother was held.

LEO VINCENT.

In a private letter to this office from Mrs. Morehouse, dated Sept. 1904, she says :

"I have had to look after the harvesting of honey from 600 or more colonies of bees, and consequently have had quite a responsibility, which, sometimes, would seem as though I could not shoulder ; but thanks to good friends I have been helped to succeed very well."



BEE-WINTERING HOUSE AND APIARY OF H. R. BOARDMAN, OF HURON CO., OHIO.—(See page 694.)



Our Bee-Keeping Sisters



Conducted by EMMA M. WILSON, Marengo, Ill.

Bee-Smoker With a Weak Spring.

A smoker forms a very important part of a bee-keeper's outfit. It is one of the very first things he buys after getting his bees. It is in almost constant use when at work in the apiary. So it is a matter of no small importance in deciding as to which smoker to get. In any case it ought to be one that can be used with the least labor possible.

Personally, I like a smoker with a very weak spring, so weak that perhaps most people would not like it at all! and for that reason I have held on to the same smoker year after year, although it is a most disreputable looking affair, coated with bee-glue, and smells a good deal like an old pipe that has been used many a long day. So you see it is not for its beauty that I have such an affection for it, but for the good that it has done, and can still do, for many an arm-ache has that same smoker saved me.

If you have never tried using one with a very weak spring, just try one and then try one with a strong spring, and note the difference. When one spends almost the entire time in the apiary, and uses a smoker so much of the time, I believe that most of the sisters will agree with me that a weak spring will be a very important factor in the saving of fatigue in a heavy day's work.

What is a spring for? Just to throw the bellows open, and to have enough force remaining to resist the pressure of the fingers so that the bellows will not slip out of the hand. Now, if the spring is strong enough so that it requires just a pound more force than is needed for this, you will readily see that there is just so much strength wasted.

Some people that have tried my smoker, not being used to such a weak spring, wonder why it does not slip out of my fingers; but it never bothers me in the least in that way, neither do I think it would them if they were actually to use it; but they are so used to the stiff spring that they imagine it would.

If you order a smoker without specifying, you'll get one that will make you lame after a day's work; but insist upon a *very light* spring, and perhaps you may get it.

Bee-Keeping for Women in Newspapers.

The experienced bee-keeper is always on the alert to learn something new, eager for information from any source, but there is one sort of literature that he always reads with interest without any expectation of gaining information. It is that obtained from the daily papers, and to a greater or less extent from the agricultural papers. Some of it would fit well in a comic almanac; and the bee-keeper reads it with the expectation of being amused at the absurd things written—generally without being disappointed.

Some writer for a daily thinks it would be an interesting thing to write about bees, and he—perhaps oftener she—concludes it is best to be fully informed on the subject, so she goes directly to the scene of action, visits the apiary of a successful bee-keeper, asks questions which are cheerfully answered, and after that half day's visit has obtained the sum of all wisdom about bees, and is ready to tell the dear public all about it.

An instance is to hand in a late Chicago daily. It is written by Cora Roche Howland, who may be a very estimable lady, but it would be well for her to learn that before any writer attacks the subject of bee-keeping, she needs not only a day, but many days, of observation and study to make sure that none of her statements may be classed among the ridiculous.

The article is headed, "Bee-Keeping Best Suited to Women". That heading may have been part and parcel of the article, or it may have been conceived by the editor of the daily. In either case, the ground for it seems to be in the following paragraph:

"In the nature of things, bee-keeping is woman's work. In the hive the womenfolk are the whole thing. Upon the health of the

queen-bee the prosperity of the colony depends. The working bees, according to the naturalist, are undeveloped females. The queen's fat and lazy consort lives merely to die for his queen, and all his brother drones, the unsuccessful suitors, are tolerated by her faithful subjects only so long as they are needed, and then are pierced to death by the poisoned javelins of a horde of angry amazons."

That's original, to say the least, for whatever reasons have been given as to bee-keeping being suited to women, it has not before been urged that bee-keeping was especially a female business because worker-bees were females. By the same reasoning the dairy business, including milking and feeding the cattle, should be turned over to women, because cows are of the female persuasion.

But how about the drones being "pierced to death by the poisoned javelins of a horde of angry amazons"? Farther on the writer says, "At a given signal they die, massacred by the virgin workers". What is that signal? and who gives it? And if there is such a general massacre, who has seen it? Did any one ever see workers by the dozen stinging the drones, or did they merely see a few workers driving the drones and making feints at stinging?

"At swarming time occasionally a swarm hangs so high on a tree that she has to mount a ladder to reach it. But the task is an interesting one. Grasping the bough from which the swarm depends, she shakes the bees down into an inverted hive. If they do not go readily she pushes them with her hands or with a big ladle. There is small likelihood of stings, for the bees are full of honey and good natured. They will follow their queen submissively."

Did any of you sisters ever mount a ladder and shake a swarm into a hive turned upside down? And did the bees go right down into that inverted hive? and did the queen go down first and all the rest "follow their queen submissively"?

Just one more interesting item:

"The intelligence with which a bee accommodates itself to circumstances certainly seems human. If you interrupt her in her work by contracting her hive, she will contract the size of her cells."

So if you want cells of a little smaller size, all you have to do is to give a little less room.

There are some nice people among newspaper writers, but they should learn that one can't cram in a day so as to write intelligently about the little busy bee.

Bicycles for Out-Apiaries.

Replying to the charge that when a man has gone to an out-apiary on a bicycle, he has already done a day's work before reaching the apiary, Editor Root, in *Gleanings in Bee-Culture*, thus comes to the defense of the bicycle:

This is not according to my experience, and I therefore judge that the correspondent in question had never ridden a bicycle enough to toughen his muscles to the point where riding is a real pleasure rather than a wearisome exertion. I have ridden repeatedly to our out-yards on a bicycle, and have done a good day's work on arriving at the yard. I have sometimes been very tired from working in the yard, feeling as if I could not drag my feet around any more, when, presto! as I got on my machine a new set of muscles were brought into play in a *different way*; and on arriving home it is an actual fact that I felt refreshed and rested. Why don't I go to out-yards now on a bicycle? Because the automobile is quicker, and enables me at the same time to carry along extra stuff.

Please send us Names of Bee-Keepers who do not now get the American Bee Journal, and we will send them sample copies. Then you can very likely afterward get them subscriptions, for which work we offer valuable premiums in nearly every number of this journal. You can aid much by sending in the names and addresses when writing us on other matters.



Ask Doctor Miller

??

Send Questions either to the office of the American Bee Journal, or to Dr. C. C. MILLER, Marengo, Ill.

Perhaps Laying Workers—Separators No Hindrance.

1. Mr. C. H. Fry, an old veteran at the "stinging sweetness", relates a peculiar circumstance: Queen-excluder under extracting chamber. Queen-cell found on extracting-frame. Do bees transport the larvæ? Did the queen go through the excluder? No other larvæ found.

2. Another circumstance or query: More honey he claims will be stored where no fences are used in this section of the country. He claims a wager that a vast amount more honey can be stored without, as the warmth can be concentrated by the bees and kept for their use when needed. What do you say? OHIO.

ANSWERS.—1. It might be the work of a laying worker. 2. It is generally believed that separators of any kind make no appreciable difference in the crop.

When to Clip Queens.

When is the proper time to clip queens?

ARKANSAS.

ANSWER.—First time you happen to see them after they begin to lay. Then each spring, after bees begin gathering, look through all colonies for queens that need clipping.

Long-Tongued Leather-Colored Bees.

I have some bees called the long-tongued leather-colored bees. Are they Italians? If so, where did they get that name?

ARKANSAS.

ANSWER.—Very likely Italians; so-called because brought from Italy.

Robber-Fly or Bee-Killer.

I am sending you a little box containing a bee and a bee-hawk. Please tell me through the American Bee Journal what it is.

KANSAS.

ANSWER.—It is a two-winged robber-fly. I don't know enough to say whether it is *Asilus missouriensis* or one of its near relatives, but coming from Kansas it may be the Nebraska bee-killer, *Promachus bastardi*.

Producing Comb Honey—Tupelo-Gum.

How do you produce comb honey? Take up the hive in the spring, and describe operations till the season closes.

1. Say whether or not you use more than one super, and, if you do, and could take off the unfinished sections every 10 days, would you use only one super?

2. When you use more than one super do you let all sections stay on till the season closes?

3. Do you think as much honey would be produced with one super to the hive, and take honey (the finished) every 10 days? I want your plan, please.

4. What is the value of "tupelo-gum" as a honey-tree?

5. What do you think of two extracting supers for a brood-chamber? and when you put supers for comb honey on alternate the supers, placing the bottom one—which would have the most brood in it—next to the sections? There would be freer communication because of no honey at top of frames.

MISSISSIPPI.

ANSWERS.—Your question reminds me a little of a letter I once got from a woman in Wisconsin, saying, "Please give me your system of bee-keeping". If I had asked her, "Please give me your system of housekeeping", she might have realized what she was asking. Exactly what you ask I have already tried to answer in the book, "Forty Years

Among the Bees", and there would hardly be room for all that in this department. To your specific questions I am glad to make answer:

1. I don't think any experienced bee-keeper would be willing to confine himself to one super, although some advocate not more than two at a time.

2. No.

3. No. I think I would be a heavy loser if I should limit myself to two, and sometimes four or more are none too many.

4. That tree is not found here, and I don't recall seeing its value given.

5. It would work all right, but might be no gain.

The "Bidsom" Bee-Feeder.

What is the advantage of the feeder described on page 588 over the Miller feeder? ILLINOIS.

ANSWER.—I don't know; but I think the special advantage claimed is that which is mentioned in two places: First, where Mr. Boughter says, "the entire arrangement is made bee-tight all around, allowing examination or refilling without disturbing the bees at all"; second, where he says, "and you have a *sine qua non* 'Bidsom feeder', in which the bees can get at the feed, but not at you while looking after their feeding". From this I suspect that Mr. Boughter has the mistaken impression that the Miller feeder can not be opened and filled without exposing the bees. Possibly, however, there may be something I do not fully understand in the case, and will be glad to have Mr. Boughter tell us wherein the improvement lies.

St. Louis Convention Delays Answers.

Attending that St. Louis convention and looking around a little at the big show has delayed no little replies to some questions, and I ask the indulgence of the questioners. I'll try to answer your next questions very promptly, and I'll promise not to go to St. Louis for the next five years.

C. C. MILLER.

The Quality of Glucose.

Bee-keepers who object to having glucose sold as honey, or as something better than honey, are sometimes silenced by being told that chemists pronounce glucose entirely wholesome. So it is; but that's pure glucose that the chemists are talking about, and pure glucose isn't sold for 10 cents a pound. W. K. Morrison says in *Gleanings*:

Good glucose, free from all impurities, and fit for table purposes, is quoted at 50 cents per pound in the catalog of the second largest dealer in the world. The glucose we hear so much about is *artificial* glucose—quite a different thing altogether. It is a disagreeable compound, which no one who values his life would eat knowingly. I am not exaggerating at all when I write thus. Five years ago, in Manchester, England, a number of persons lost their lives by drinking beer containing only minute quantities of this same glucose. Now, what would be the result of using it in large quantities, as would be the case in using it as a substitute for honey? In the case of the beer the glucose was converted into caramel, and then used to give "body" to the beer. In the particular case I refer to, at least 30 persons lost their lives in a few weeks by this insidious poison. It was by the merest chance the discovery was made that the poison came from the beer. And this is the principal use to which artificial glucose is put. So beer-drinkers and would-be honey-mixers can take fair warning.

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Reports and Experiences

Best Fall Honey-Flow.

The early summer was not very favorable for the bees in this locality, but this fall is the best we have ever had. We will get 1500 or 1600 pounds of honey, about 1200 pounds of which will be extracted, from 21 colonies, spring count. There is not much sale for honey here. HARVEY R. CHINN. Dixon Co., Nebr., Sept. 21.

One of the Asters.

Kindly name the enclosed flower. There is an abundance of it this season now in full bloom. The bees are working on it more vigorously than they have on white clover or any other bloom. Does it make good honey? and of what color?

This is my first season with the bees, and they have done very well.

GEO. E. WILKINS.

Wright Co., Mo., Sept. 23.

[The flower is one of the asters—*Aster ericoides*—and is an excellent honey-producing plant. Nearly all the asters and goldenrods furnish first-quality nectar for the bees, and where these plants are abundant the apiarist need have no fear of empty or half-filled supers.—C. L. WALTON.]

The Value of Honey-Leaflets.

I took several of the leaflets, "Facts About Honey and Bees", to town and distributed them, and the result was that the next time I went in the merchant wanted me to bring in more extracted and comb honey. Extracted honey is going fast in 8-ounce tumblers for 10 cents, and this clears for me 14 cents per pound cash. I have a large stock of tumblers filled and ready for the market, and ordered another barrel yesterday. I shall work more for extracted honey in the future, as comb honey brings only 12½ cents per pound. People will buy a great deal more honey if they can buy it in 10-cent packages. Some will buy a glass of honey when they come to town, just to try it, and they like it so well that each time they come they will get a glass or two.

A grain-buyer—a young, well-educated man—came to me the other day, asking for another leaflet, as some one had taken his. He wanted Dr. Miller to read it (we have a Dr. Miller here, too). He said it was wonderful. I also

gave one to another doctor here, who was at one time demonstrator of Bacteriology in Rushville Medical College, and he liked it very much. I gave a copy to the editor of our local paper, and asked him to republish it if he thought it worthy.

When reading one of these leaflets one is tempted to think that it is not all the truth; in fact, the account

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27A26t

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The Passenger Department of the Illinois Central Railroad Company have recently issued a publication known as Circular No. 12, in which is described the

best territory in this country

for the growing of early strawberries and early vegetables. Every dealer in such products should address a postal card to the undersigned at DUBUQUE, IOWA, requesting a copy of "Circular No. 12."

J. F. MERRY, Asst. Gen'l Pass'r Agent.

32A15t

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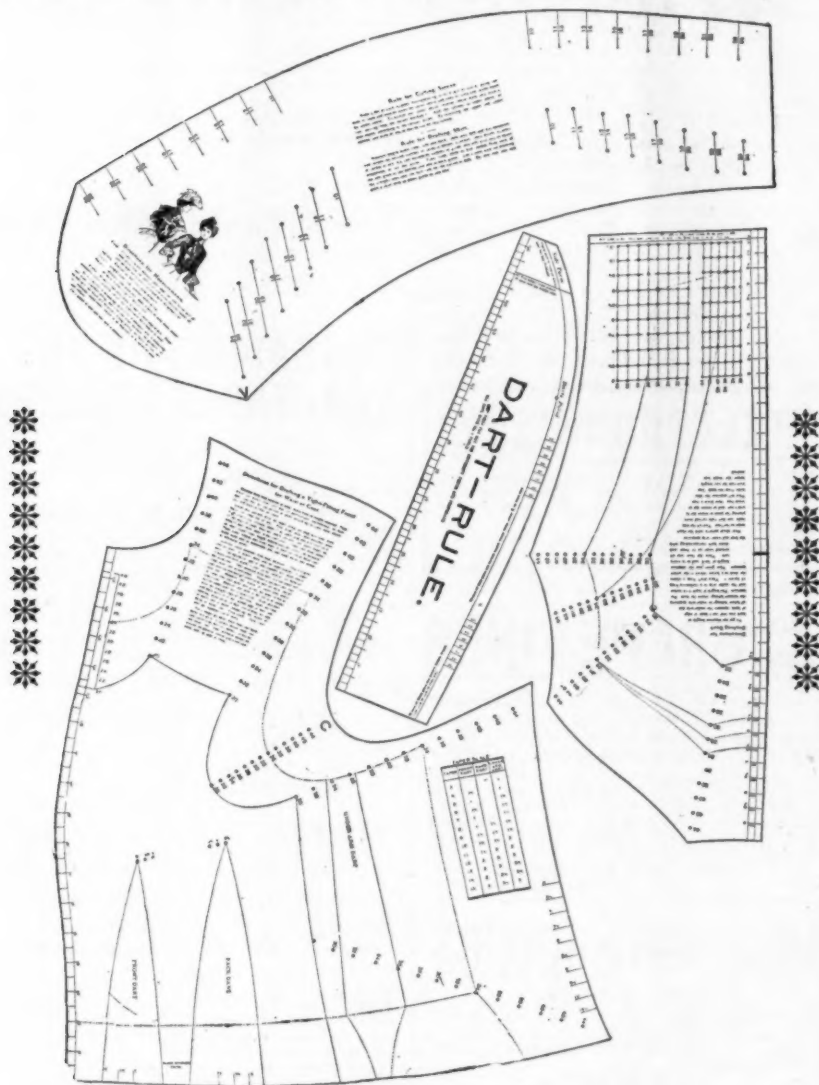
CHAS. KOEPPEN,

22A1f

FREDERICKSBURG, VA.

Something ^{FOR OUR} Bee-Keeping Sisters in the Winter Time.

We think all ladies will agree with us in saying that every man should at least understand some business, with which, in case of necessity, he could support himself and family. The wealthiest people frequently come to want, and wretched, indeed, is the man who cannot earn a living after his wealth is gone. He sometimes fills the grave of a suicide. And why, in this enlightened age of progression, should not woman, as well as man, be able to depend on her own resources? In case her husband dies in poverty, must she starve or depend on charity? In case her husband falls to provide and grossly mistreats the woman he has sworn to cherish, must she humbly submit? **A THOUSAND TIMES, NO!** Let every woman, before she marries, have some knowledge that can be used to make her a living. Every mother, rich or poor, should make her daughters, in a certain degree, independent, by giving them some kind of a trade, and teaching them to be self-reliant. Mothers should have their daughters learn to sew, and not neglect this important part of their domestic education. The



daughter so taught will not only make a better wife and mother, but will also be more likely to secure a better husband, and will always command his respect. He will not look upon her as a helpless "know-nothing," but will know that if he fails in his duties, she can live without him, and this can only strengthen the bond between them. A thorough knowledge of dress-making can always be turned into gold, and become the means of support for the mother and her little ones. She may never have to use this knowledge in this way, but she has a trade and can use it if necessary.

The outline cut shown herewith is a condensed copy of **THE NEW LONDON LADIES' TAILOR SYSTEM** for drafting and cutting ladies' and children's garments. For simplicity and accuracy it has no superior among the more expensive systems. Thousands of girls have learned more about drafting and cutting with this system than they knew about it after serving their apprenticeship in some of the dressmaking shops of the United States and Canada. Thousands of the best garment cutters have laid their complicated and expensive system aside, and are now using **THE NEW LONDON TAILOR SYSTEM**. Thousands have been sold at \$5.00 each, but we mail it **Free** to a paid-in-advance subscriber to the American Bee Journal for sending us **two new subscribers** at \$1.00 each; or we will send it to any one with a year's subscription to the American Bee Journal, both for \$1.75; or, we will mail the Tailor System alone for \$1.00. Address all orders to

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seems a little fanatical, but I challenge any one to give substantial evidence to prove a single part of it false. Since it is true the world ought to know it, and if the majority learn of it the result will be a great help to the bee-keeping industry. **J. E. JOHNSON,**
Knox Co., Ill., Sept. 6.

[We furnish the leaflets referred to for 35 cents per 100, postpaid.—E.D.]

Good Bee-Brush—Foul-Brood Cure.

The best bee-brush, I think, is a turkey wing, or the wing of a wild or tame goose.

The best way to cure foul brood is to give the bees new, full combs of honey after breeding is over in the fall, taking away all of the combs.

A. J. SNOWDEN.

Buffalo Co., Nebr.

Moving Bees on Wagon and Cars.

I will report my experience in moving bees on a wagon and on cars for the benefit of others.

I prepared the bees for shipment by screening them with wire-cloth on top of the brood-frames, and closing the hive-entrances with a strip of board for heavy colonies, and for the very light colonies I nailed the covers on and screened the front entrances. A few of the heavy colonies had considerable honey in the brood-frames; these cracked, and hung on the wire in the frames, while a few fell off to the bottom of the hive. The bees loaded themselves with honey, and then were so heavy they shook to the bottom of the hive with the shake of the cars, became daubed with the honey leaking from the broken combs, and died; while those having little honey in the hives came through in excellent condition. If I had extracted the honey before moving they would have moved without any loss.

The crop of honey is about half, or less than half, what it was last year.

GEO. E. MOORE.

Washington Co., Wis., Oct. 4.

Bee-Keeping in West Virginia.

I believe this locality is above the average for bee-keeping. We have a great amount of basswood and poplar on the sides of our rugged hills, which is not likely to be destroyed, as the ground can never be cultivated or made useful where they stand, and the timber left is only culls. They seldom fail to produce a great honey harvest for the bees, and our fields always have more or less of white clover. Of late years our fall flow of honey has been immense, almost altogether from aster, which, in many places, is crowding out all other vegetation, and at this writing many spots covering acres are snowy white with its bloom, so our bees will go into winter quarters with combs filled with honey from this plant. It continues to bloom until killed entirely by freezing.

I have 37 colonies all in fine condition. I got but little surplus this season; it was the poorest season for years, caused by almost continuous cold and wet weather during May and June, and bees came out in bad shape after their long winter confinement. I am going to put all my colonies into

the cellar this winter. I had never tried wintering bees in the cellar until last winter. I had 3 colonies which were after-swarms, and those did not have 10 pounds of honey to winter on, yet those colonies came through the winter without the noticeable loss of any bees, while strong colonies, being wintered on the summer stands, were either frozen to death or so depopulated as not to be able to give any surplus.

I am getting about all my education along this line from the American Bee Journal, and think the bee-keeper that doesn't read it is the loser.

JAMES WOLFE.

Marshall Co., W. Va., Oct 2

Likes Italians Best.

I use a 10-frame hive, taking a frame 12x12 inches, and super frames 12x9. My bees are all the way from golden Italians to blacks. I like the Italians the best on account of their beauty, and their gentleness when I lift the frames from the hives.

F. B. STILWELL.

Tazewell Co., Va.

A Lively Time Moving Bees.

In May, 1903, I started out to buy a few colonies of bees. Several miles from home, on the bluffs of the Sangamon River, I found a widow who had 8 colonies which she was willing to sell. The bees were all in 8-frame dovetailed hives except one, and that one was in an old hollow log set up on end, about 32 inches across the top, and larger at the bottom. It was arranged so that a super could be placed on top, and it had a hive-cover on it. I examined all the colonies, and agreed to give her \$21 for the 8 colonies, 21 empty hives, 36 supers, and 500 new sections.

Upon examining the log hive I found it chock-full of bees—these little black smarties—and the log stood 3½ feet high, with an auger-hole bored 7 inches from the bottom, also a few notches. But it seemed that the bees could creep out anywhere around the bottom of the log. I told the widow I would be after them the next evening.

The next day I looked around for a team. I found a man whom I will call John, with a two-horse team. We started in time to get over there at sundown, with a lumber wagon and a terrible rough road to travel. We fixed all the frame hives with wire-screen. We had no room for the log hive, so we struck for home. I don't think bees ever got such a shaking up as they did. We got them unloaded just at daylight.

The next evening we went after the old log, reaching there just at sundown. As soon as it got a little dark we went to work. I had a wire screen for the top and one for the bottom. We got the screen on the top all right, but when we went to put the screen on the bottom I found I had used the wrong screen for the top, and the other one would not cover the bottom. So I took the screen off to put on the right one, and the bees got mad, and still madder, and went for us in full force. I told John to stick to them, and if it got too hot to run. I soon found that run was the only thing to do; but we got the screen off the top while it was



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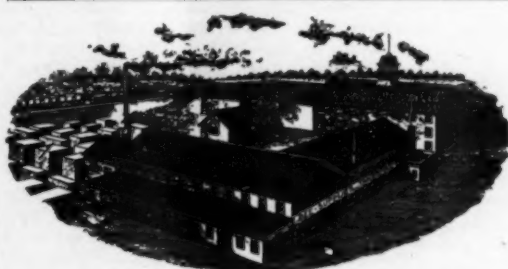
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a hot time. We agreed to evacuate, and come another day, so we loaded up the old boxes and went home, feeling badly whipped.

In a few days I got a card from the widow, to come and take those bees away, as they were stinging the children and the chickens, and everything they could get at. I did not know what to do. Finally I made up my mind to take those bees, dead or alive. I took sulphur with me, to kill them if they showed fight.

We got there just at sunrise. They were out and ready for us. I put on my new veil, and went for them with volumes of smoke, but it had no effect on them. The more I smoked the more they came out. We had to retreat, just covered with bees. They were in my pockets, and everywhere. We let them settle, then I packed dirt around the bottom to keep them in. At last I got the top screen tacked on, but they kept working out through the dirt at the bottom.

I happened to think of my package of smoking tobacco. I filled the smoker, got it to going, and stuck the nozzle in the auger-hole. It was not long before they put up a terrible howl. I did punish them good. They quit howling, and everything was quiet. I told John I believed I had killed them all, but he said he didn't think so, that they had only surrendered.

I turned the log down to tack on the screen, and about a peck of bees dropped down. I tacked the wire partly on, scraped up the drunken bees, and dumped them in and closed it in a hurry. We put them into the wagon, and had not gone a mile before they were as lively as ever. Poor John was swelled up like a toad. This spring the moth or wax-worm got into the hive, and did a better job than I did.

This is a longer letter than I expected to write, but I hope the editor will not call me down. It is like a Methodist experience—the half will never be told.

S. T. CRIM.

Sangamon Co., Ill., Aug. 20.

Bee-Keeping in Northwestern New Mexico.

This is an off-year for Northwestern New Mexico, but not a failure. Spring rains failed to materialize, and, as a result, our bees were starving when our eastern friends had their crop gathered.

Last year was an exceptional one, and our bees were not without a flight for more than a week at any one time during the winter. They were in fine condition in the spring, but the harvest was too long delayed for many. Those who were near large fruit farms were more fortunate, and ready for business when the harvest did begin. Sweet clover was fine, but has seen its best days. Two crops of alfalfa have been harvested, and the prospects are that the third will mature before frost.

Bees are now humming over the Rocky Mountain bee-plant (cleome), but the area this year is limited to the low bottom-land. "Rabbit brush" (doubtless a kind of sage) is in full bloom, but bees don't pay much attention to it now. It produces dark honey.

Nearly every ranchman here is a bee-keeper. There are few professionals. This is certainly the home of the honey-bee, but the obstacles bal-

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Bienen-Kultur, by Thomas G. Newman.—This is a German translation of the principal portion of the book called "Bees and Honey." 100-page pamphlet. Price, 25 cents.

Apiary Register, by Thomas G. Newman.—Devotes two pages to a colony. Leather binding. Price, for 50 colonies, \$1.00.

Dr. Howard's Book on Foul Brood.—Gives the McEvoy Treatment and reviews the experiments of others. Price, 25 cents.

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Foul Brood, by A. R. Kohnke.—Origin, Development and Cure. Price, 10 cents.

ance the advantages. An old bee-man declared the bee-moth could not be found here. We saw one light case last year, but combs left in empty hives all this summer are untouched. Foul brood is reported at Farmington, 17 miles down the river.

An almost prohibitive freight rate, and being 50 miles from a railroad station, make home-made hives almost imperative. With fine comb honey at 7 cents wholesale, and 10 cents for one section, or three for 25 cents, at retail (last year), after a 50-mile haul by wagon, the present is rather discouraging to a professional. The future outlook is better. A railroad, which means cheaper rates and new markets, is practically assured. The mining towns could be worked to advantage. Extracted is in better demand, and sells as high, or higher, than comb. New irrigating canals are contemplated, and that will add many thousand acres of alfalfa and fruit-land to our pasture area. As a whole, the future prospects of San Juan Co., New Mexico, as a land for the bee-keeper, are very bright. W. A. BALLINGER.

San Juan Co., New Mexico, Aug. 18.

CONVENTION NOTICE.

Wisconsin.—The convention of the N. E. Wisconsin Bee-Keepers' Association, to be held in the Opera House at Mishicot, Oct. 25, 1904, will be called to order at 10 a.m. Election of officers and other important business will be transacted in addition to the program recently published in this journal. Dr. J. B. Rick, Sec. Mishicot, Wis.

Texas.—The Southwest Texas Bee-Keepers' Association meets in San Antonio, Thursday and Friday, Oct. 27th and 28th. This will be a rousing and important meeting, and all bee-keepers are cordially invited to attend. For program and place of meeting address, H. H. Hyde, Pres., 129 N. Flores St., San Antonio, Tex.

Georgia.—The bee-keepers of Georgia will meet Oct. 21st, at 10 a.m., at 20½ Cotton Ave., Macon, Ga., during the State Fair, to organize a bee-keepers' association. Every bee-keeper or other person interested is invited to be present. Cordele, Ga. J. J. Wilder.

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Honey and Beeswax

CHICAGO, Sept. 24.—The market is now showing more activity. Some small lots of fancy white clover have been sold at 14c per pound, with No. 1 ranging at 12@13c; very little call for other grades. Extracted, white, brings 6@7c; amber, 5@6c, according to quality, flavor and style of package. Beeswax, 28@30c.

R. A. BURNETT & Co.

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 22.—Market on comb honey is quite active at \$2.75 per case for fancy white stock. Extracted rather slow at 6½@7c. We look for the demand on extracted to pick up considerably with cooler weather. Beeswax in good demand at 30c per pound.

C. C. CLEMONS & Co.

BOSTON, Sept. 22.—Comb honey continues to come in slowly, while the demand is increasing. Fancy white will bring from 16@17c; No. 1, 15@16c, and No. 2, 14c. The old honey has been practically cleaned up, there being one lot of any quantity left. We look to see our present market maintained right through the season.

BLAKE, SCOTT & LEE.

NEW YORK, Sept. 24.—Comb honey is now arriving quite freely and fancy stock finds ready sale at 15c; No. 1 at 13@14c; No. 2, 11@12c; no buckwheat on the market as yet. Extracted honey in fair demand at unchanged prices. Beeswax dull at 27@28c.

HILDRETH & SEGELKEN.

CINCINNATI, Sept. 15.—There is an improvement in the honey market, so far as extracted honey is concerned. The demand has increased considerably, but the supply is limited, owing to the fact that bee-keepers in general are mistakenly holding their crop for better prices. We quote amber extracted in barrels at 5½@6c; white clover in barrels and cans at 7@8½c, according to quality. The comb honey situation is badly demoralized, being aught but encouraging. Quote fancy white clover comb honey at 14@15c. Beeswax, 26@28c.

THE FRED W. MUTH CO.

ALBANY, N. Y., Sept. 28.—Our honey market is getting more brisk now. The quality of honey seems to be much ahead of last year. We are

selling fancy white comb at 15@16c; A No. 1, 15c; No. 1, 14@14½c; mixed, 12@13c; buckwheat, No. 1, 13½@14c; No. 2, 11@12c. Beeswax, 28@30c.

H. R. WRIGHT.

CINCINNATI, O., Sept. 21.—Comb honey is now coming in more freely, and prices if anything have a little moderated. The sales made and prices obtained were for No. 1 fancy water-white comb, 13½@15½c; No. 2, 12½@14c. Extracted is sold as follows: White clover, 6½@8c; amber in barrels, 5½@5¾c; in cans, 6@6¼c. Beeswax, 27c.

C. H. W. WEBER.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 22.—The market for comb honey is very much unsettled at the present time. Quite a few poor lots have been sent in early, and have sold for low prices. Very little fancy has arrived in this market thus far. We quote: Fancy, 16@17c; No. 1, 14@15c; amber, 14c. Extracted, fancy white, 8@9c; amber, 7@8c; dark, 6c. Beeswax, 28c.

We are producers of honey and do not handle on commission.

WM. A. SELSER.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 21.—White comb, 1-lb. sections, 12½@13c; amber, 9@11c. Extracted, white, 6@6½c; light amber, 5@6c; amber, 4@4½c; dark amber, 3½@3¾c. Beeswax, good to choice, light, 2@3c; dark, 27@28c.

Spot stocks are of rather light volume and are mostly of amber grade. There is little selling pressure, especially on good to choice honey. Some holders are contending for stiffer figures than are warranted as regular quotations. Not much is changing hands, and business doing is principally on local account.

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